

From Atlantis to Babylon

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Is “*The Lost City of Atlantis*” pure myth, or is there truth behind this legend? If it is not fictional, there should be some mention of it in God’s word, especially as a large portion of the Bible records man’s history. Or there may be an “anti-type” in the Bible that reflects an ancient reality.

The origin of the Atlantis story came to light around 360 BCE when it appeared in Timaeus and Critias, which are works by Plato. These portrayed Atlantis as a wealthy and powerful society. Eventually, due to its avarice and corruption, the city was destroyed and covered by the ocean.

Interestingly, the ancient seafaring nation of Tyre, that was destroyed by Alexander the Great, is mentioned in the Bible, and the language used to describe its avarice and corruption seems to be anti-typical of Atlantis, whether Atlantis actually existed or not.

*For thus says the Lord God: 'When I make you (Tyre) a desolate city, like cities that are not inhabited, when **I bring the deep upon you, and great waters cover you**' (Eze. 26:19; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

*'I will make you a terror, and **you shall be no more; though you are sought for, you will never be found again,**' says the Lord God (Eze. 26:21; emphasis added).*

Just like corrupt societies today, Tyre bartered in human lives, which is now considered normal practice in western countries through their intentionally broken immigration systems.

*Javan, Tubal, and Meshech were your traders. **They bartered human lives** and vessels of bronze for your merchandise (Eze. 27:13; emphasis added).*

Biblical history confirms that Almighty God will execute judgment on cities, or nations, which conduct themselves in this manner.

*Your oarsmen brought you into many waters, but **the east wind broke you in the midst of the seas.** ²⁷Your riches, wares, and merchandise, your mariners and pilots, your caulkers and merchandisers, all your men of war who are in you, and **the entire company which is in your midst, will fall into the midst of the seas on the day of your ruin** (Eze. 27:26-27; emphasis added).*

Whenever a great trading metropolis is destroyed, there is collateral damage on all those who were trading with it. This is expressed through the following figurative language.

*In their wailing for you, they will take up a lamentation, and lament for you, 'What city is like Tyre, **destroyed in the midst of the sea?**' ³³When your wares went out by sea, you satisfied many people; you enriched the kings of the earth with your many luxury goods and your merchandise. ³⁴But **when you are broken by the seas in the depths of the waters, your merchandise and the entire company will fall in your midst** (Eze. 27:32-34; emphasis added).*

Great kingdoms eventually fall, primarily due to their pride, corruption, avarice, and lawlessness. They believe they are invincible, and ‘gods of their own destiny.’ However, this is what Almighty God has to say to each and every one of them.

Therefore thus says the Lord God: "Because you have set your heart as the heart of a god, ⁷Behold, therefore, I will bring strangers against you, the most terrible of the nations; and they shall draw their swords against the beauty of your wisdom, and defile your splendor. ⁸They shall throw you down into the Pit (the grave; cf. Isa. 14:15), and **you shall die the death of the slain in the midst of the seas** (Eze. 28:6-8; Ed. note in parentheses; emphasis added).

But who is really behind all these proud, powerful, and corrupt kingdoms that have come and gone throughout man's history? Almighty God answers that question as well. Again, He uses figuratively language because the king of Tyre does not represent a human being. Instead, he is a powerful and corrupt spirit-being named Satan.

"Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord God: "You (Lucifer before he became known as Satan) were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. ¹³**You were in Eden, the garden of God;** every precious stone was your covering (royal attire) the workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created (musical talent). ¹⁴**You were an anointed cherub who covers (God's throne); I established (appointed) you. You were on the holy mountain (symbol of government) of God'...** (Eze. 28:12-14a; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity (sin; cf. 1Jn. 3:4) was found in you. ¹⁶**By the abundance of your trading you became filled with violence within, and you sinned;** therefore I cast you as a profane (corrupt) thing out of the mountain of God... (Eze.

28:16a; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

Now that Satan has been cast out of heaven, he knows that his judgment for the sins he has committed is imminent.

*...Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because **he knows that he has a short time** (Rev. 12:12b; emphasis added).*

As spirit-beings do not experience "time" in the same manner as human beings, one thousand years is like one day for Satan. Therefore, his rebellion against God only feels like it happened a few days ago.

...with the Lord (who is a spirit-being) one day is as a thousand years (for a human being), and a thousand years (for a human being) as one day (for a spirit-being) (2Pet. 3:8b; Ed. notes in parentheses).

Because Satan is aware that he will soon face judgment, he is working diligently to finish building his last empire, which God's word describes as being greater than its predecessor, or "type"and that is Babylon. Because of its pride, avarice, corruption, and lawlessness, this final version of Babylon is referred to as a harlot.

*"Come, I (an angel) will show you (John) the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters (symbol of nations; cf. Rev. 17:15), ²with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication (corrupt and ungodly behavior), and **the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication**" (Rev. 17:1-2; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

So, the general population of the world is becoming drunk with the ridiculous and corrupt behavior of its leaders. Being drunk means that you feel out of control. How many feel that way right now? In other words, nothing you say or do makes any difference to the way this world is heading. Sadly, it is only going to get worse until every system that mankind has been influenced to build is destroyed, and this is coming sooner than most believe or understand. When this happens it will be sudden, as it appears to have been for the city of Atlantis.

*And the kings of the earth who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her will weep and lament for her, when they see the smoke of her burning, ¹⁰standing at a distance for fear of her torment, saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For **in one hour your judgment has come.**'* (Rev. 18:9-10; emphasis added).

None of this should be a surprise to those who understand what Christ said regarding the Kingdom of God. He instructed mankind to pray that it will come to earth and replace the corrupt systems of governance that are all influenced, to one degree or another, by Satan.

Your kingdom come (and when it does arrive) *Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven* (Mt. 6:10; Ed. note in parenthesis).

This is the most succinct definition of the gospel (good news) that Christ announced. And, believe it or not, it will happen. As with any kingdom, God's kingdom must have a ruler (Jesus Christ), and its own sovereign territory (entire earth), and it must have a legal system to maintain order (the law and commandments of Almighty God; cf. Isa. 2:2-4), and citizens (those who survive the coming tribulation; cf. Mt. 24:21).

As God's kingdom cannot coexist with the present world order (cf. Jn. 18:36), the latter will be removed, and Satan will be bound for a thousand years; during which time this planet will be rebuilt and reeducated.

*He (a loyal angel) laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and **bound him for a thousand years*** (Rev. 20:2; emphasis added).

Hopefully, this truth will be an encouragement to those who are in despair with the direction our leaders (who are influenced by Satan; cf. Jn. 8:44) are taking us. The "good news" is that this present evil age will come to an end (cf. Gal. 1:4).

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